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TS-164-671 RMB Memo "Proposed Advanced Reconnaissance System", 19 Nov 1957.

The President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities included in its latest semi-annual report the recommendation "that an early review be made of new developments in advanced reconnaissance systems." In the text of its report, the Board states that it is aware of two proposed reconnaissance systems. It is known informally that this is intended to refer, on the one hand, to the several proposals now under consideration in the Department of Defense for a reconnaissance satellite and, on the other, to a study currently in progress in the C I A of the feasibility of a manned reconnaissance aircraft designed for greatly reduced ~~radar~~ radar cross section.

There is no slightest possibility that a successor aircraft could be operational sooner than the spring of 1959, yet by that date it seems highly likely both that the U-2 will be obsolete and that the urgency of the need for photographic reconnaissance will be even greater than it is today. The management and organization of this later phase of the project, if it is undertaken should be chosen with these objectives in view (i.e. maximum speed and security).

NRO review(s) completed.